A

COLLECTION OF HIS MAIESTIES MOST GRACIOUS MESSAGES FOR PEACE

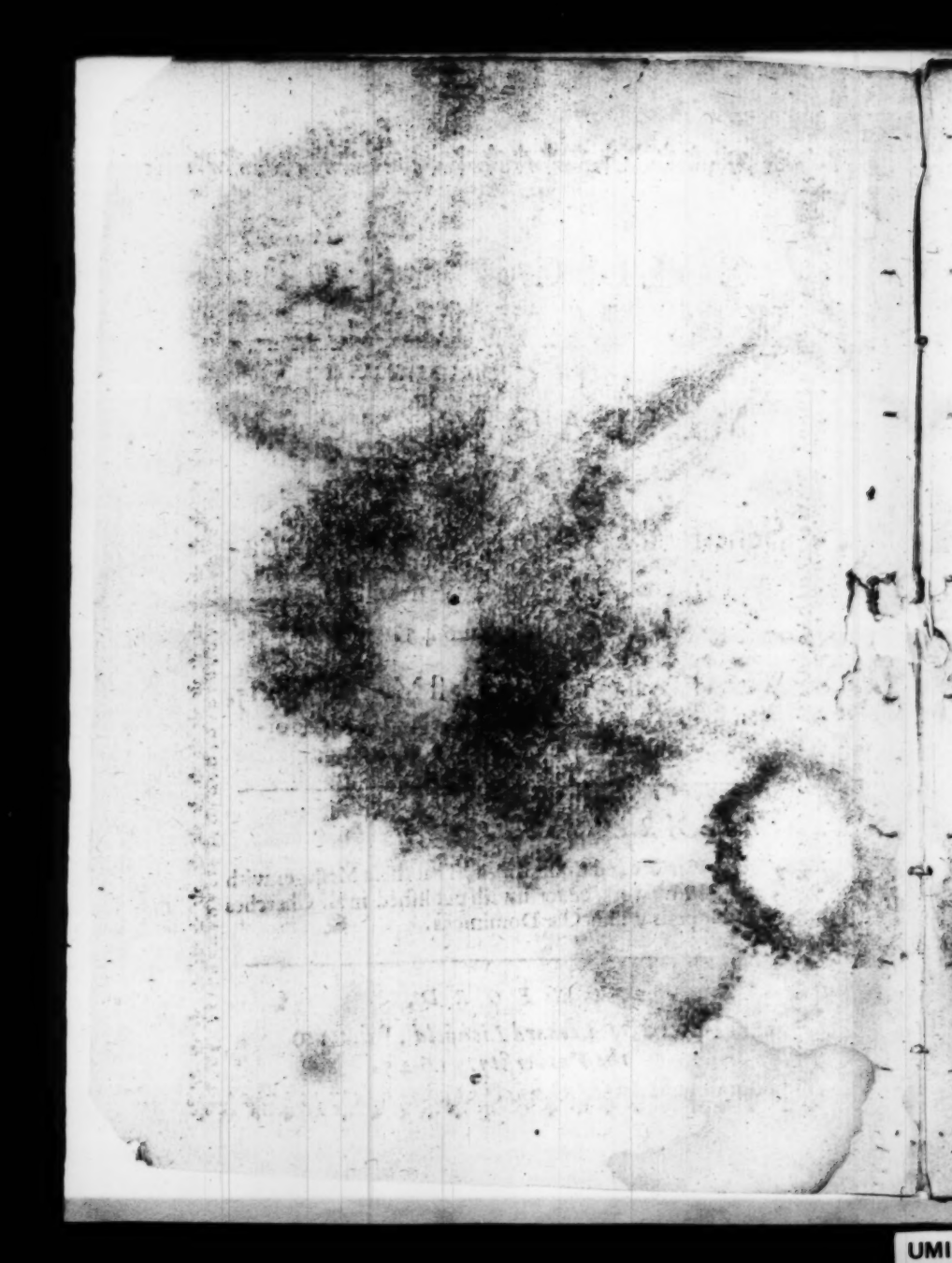
Sent to the Two Houses of Parliament at Westminster, since [illegible] 1645.

With His Majesties last Message, 1642. and the Answer [illegible] to the former Message, [illegible]

CHARLES R.

OUr Pleasure and Command is, That these Messages with their Answers, be forthwith published in all Churches and Chappells within Our Dominions.

OXFORD,
Printed by *Leonard Lichfield*, Printer to the Vniversity. 1645.



A COLLECTION OF His MAJESTIES most Gracious Messages for Peace, sent to the two Houses of Parliament at *Westminster* since the 5. of *December*, 1645.

CHARLES R.

HIS Majesty being [illegible] the Continuation of [illegible] Warre, cannot [illegible] the Duty He owes to God, or the [illegible] and regard He hath to the pres[illegible] His People [illegible] the consti[illegible] tion of [illegible] endeav[illegible] some expedient for the spee[illegible] of these [illegible] Di-stractions, if that may be, [illegible] desire [illegible] safe Conduct may be for[illegible] the Earle of *Sou*[illegible] *Palmer* Esquires, and [illegible] ses, and other Accommo[illegible] *ster*, duri[illegible] eir stay the[illegible] ne who they shall think fit. Whom [illegible] Majesty [illegible] to the Lords and Commons Assem[illegible] in the Parliament of *England* at *Westminster*, and the [illegible] bers of the Parliament of *Scotland*, furnis[illegible] Propositions, as His Majesty is confident will [illegible] of a happy and well grounded Peace. *Given at the* [illegible] Oxford *the fifth of* December, 1645.

For the Speaker of the House of Peeres pro tempore.

This Gracious Message came to *Westminster*, December the sixth, where he that brought it was detained five dayes, and at last sent back without any Answer at all to His MAJESTY; only these few words were written to Sir *Thomas Glemham* Governour of *Oxford*.

SIR,

WE *have received your Letter of the* 5th *of this instant* December, *with His Majesties inclosed, and have sent back your Trumpet by Command of both Houses, who will with all convenient speed returne an answer to His Majesty, and rest*

Your loving Friends
Grey of Werk Speaker of the House of Peeres *Pro Tempore*.

William Lenthall Speaker of the House of Commons.

For Sir *Thomas Glemham* Governour of *Oxford*.

This was all, after so many [illegible] expectation; which is indeed neither Answer nor Excuse, being only a Confession of nothing at present, and an intimation that [illegible] themselves judg'd it *convenient*) they would [illegible] notwithstanding all manner of difficulties [illegible] to satisfie His [illegible] desires for Peace) [illegible]

CHARLES R.

HIS Majesty cannot but extreamly wonder, that after so many expressions on your part of a deep and seeming sence of the miseries of this afflicted Kingdom, and of the dangers incident to His Person during the continuance of this unnaturall War, your many great and so often repeated Protestations, that the raising of these Armes hath been only for the necessary defence of Gods true Religion, His Majesties Honour, Safety and Prosperity, the Peace, comfort and security of His People,

People, you should delay a safe Conduct to the persons mentioned in His Majesties Message of the fifth of this instant *December*, which are to be sent unto you with Propositions for a well grounded Peace: A thing so far from having been denied at any time by His Maiesty, whensoever you have desired the same, that he beleives it hath been seldom (if ever) practised among the most avowed & professed enemies much lesse from Subiects to their King. But His Maiesty is resolved, these discouragements whatsoever shall make Him faile of His part in doing His uttermost endeavours to put an end to these Calamities, which if not in time prevented, must prove the ruine of this unhappy Nation; And therefore that [illegible] desire, that a safe conduct may be forthwith [illegible] expressed in His former Message, & [illegible] you, as you will answer to Almighty God [illegible] shall make inquisition for all the Blood [illegible] be spilt in this unnaturall Warre, as you tender [illegible] and establishment of the true Religion; by all [illegible] Duty and Allegiance to your King, or compassion [illegible] ding and unhappy Country, [illegible] Charity to [illegible] you dispose your hearts to [illegible] fence, and [illegible] all your faculties in a more [illegible] together [illegible] His Majesty, to set a speedy [illegible] Difference, and then He shall not [illegible] sing of Peace in this [illegible] at Oxford the [illegible]

For the speaker of the House of Peers [illegible] *tempore.*

About [illegible] dayes passed (which was more then they allowed [illegible] Lords Treaty at *Uxbridge*) and yet no Answer came to either [illegible] Messages. His MAJESTY observing such strange delayes [illegible] by whomsoever He should send with Propositions (though [illegible] most unblemish'd Honour and Integrity) Resolved to remove all Clouds and Excuses by repairing Personally to *London*, and therefore sent this following Message.

CHARLES R.

NOtwithstanding the strange and unexpected delayes (which can be precedented by no former times) to His Majesties two former Messages, His Majesty will lay aside all Expostulations, as rather serving to loose time, then to contribute any remedy to the evills, which (for the present) doe afflict this distracted Kingdome; Therefore without farther Preamble, His Majesty thinkes it most necessary to send these Propositions this way, which He intended to doe by the Persons mentioned in His former Messages, though He well knowes the great disadvantage, which Overtures of this kind have, by the want of being accompanied by well instructed Messengers.

His Majesty conceiving that the former Treaties have hitherto proved ineffectuall, chiefly for want of Power in those Persons that Treated, as likewise because those from whom their Power was derived (not possibly having the particular informations of every severall state) could not give so cleare a Judgement as was requisite in so important a businesse; If therefore His Majesty may have the engagement of the two Houses of Parliament at *Westminster*, the Commissioners of the Parliament of *Scotland*, the Aldermen, Common-Councell, and [illegible] chiefe Commanders in Sir *Thomas* [illegible] those in the *Scots* Army, for His Majesties [illegible] Comming to, and abode in *London* or *Westminster*, (with [illegible] of His Servants now attending Him, and their Followers not exceeding in all the number of 300) for the space of forty dayes, and after that time for His free and safe repaire to any of His Garrisons at *Oxford*, *Worcester*, or *Newarke*, (which His Majesty shall nominate at any time before His going from *London* or *Westminster*,) His Majesty propounds to have a Personall Treaty with the two Houses of Parliament at *Westminster*, and the Commissioners of the Parliament of *Scotland*, upon all matters which may conduce

duce to the restoring of Peace and happinesse to these miserably distracted Kingdomes; And to begin with the three Heads which were Treated on at *Uxbridge*. And for the better clearing of His Majesties earnest and sincere Intentions of putting an end to these unnaturall Distractions, (knowing that point of security may prove the greatest obstacle to this most blessed Worke) His Majesty therefore Declares, That He is willing to commit the great Trust of the *Militia* of this Kingdome, for such time, and with such Powers, as are expresst in the Paper delivered by His Majesties Commissioners at *Uxbridge*, the 6th of *February* last, to these Persons following, *viz.* The Lord *Privy Seale*, the Duke of *Richmond*, the Marquesse of *Hertford*, the Marquesse of *Dorchester*, [illegible] Lord *Chamberlaine*, the Earle of *Northumberland*, [illegible] of *Essex*, Earle of *Southampton*, Earle of [illegible] *Salisbury*, Earle of *Manchester*, Earle of *Warwick*, [illegible] *bigh*, Earle of *Chichester*, Lord *Say*, Lord *Seymour*, [illegible] Lord *Lexington*, M. *Denzil Hollis*, M. *Pierrepoint*, [illegible] *Bellasis*, M. *Richard Spencer*, Sir *Thomas Fairfax*, M. [illegible] *burnham*, Sir *Gervas Clifton*, Sir *Henry Vane junior*, [illegible] *Wallop*, M. *Thomas Chichley*, *Oliver Cromwell*, [illegible] *Skippon*, supposing that [illegible] Persons against [illegible] there can be no just exception [illegible] doth not fall [illegible] then His Majesty offers to [illegible] to the election of [illegible], with the Powers [illegible]

Thus His Majesty [illegible] witnesse, of His sincere Intentions [illegible] endeavours, for the composing and [illegible] of these Distractions, which He doubts not but by the [illegible] God, will soon be put to a happy [illegible] conclusion, if this His Majesties offer be accepted; [illegible] He leaves all the World to Iudge, who are the Continuers of this unnaturall Warre. And therefore He once more Conjures you, by all the Bonds of Duty you owe to God and your King, to have so great a Compassion on the bleeding and miserable Estate of your Country, That you joyne your most serious and hearty Endeavours with His Majesty, to put a happy

a happy and speedy end to these present Miseries. *Given at the Court in* OXFORD *the* 26 *of* December, 1645.

For the Speaker of the House of Peers pro tempore, To be Communicated to the two Houses of Parliament at Westminster, and the Commissioners of the Parliament of Scotland.

The day after His MAJESTY had sent this Third Message, Sir Peter Killigrew brought an Answer to His MAJESTIES two former [illegible] December, whoever heares this Answer, will believe [illegible] proceeded sooner.

May it please your *Majesty*,

The Lords and Commons Assembled in the Parliament of England at Westminster, *have received your Letters of the* [illegible] *of this instant* December, *and having together with the Commissioners of the Parliament of* Scotland, *taken the same into their serious consideration, do humbly return this Answer.*

They have in all their Actions manifested to Your Majesty [illegible] *that a safe and* [illegible] *Your three Kingdomes, and for the* [illegible] *shall ever pray to God, and use the* [illegible] *to Your Majesty to beleive, that the* [illegible] *hath not proceeded from any* [illegible] *and to these present Calamities* [illegible] *ting an occasioned by the Considerations* [illegible] *Debates necessary* [illegible] *nesse of so great importance, wherein both Kingdoms are* [illegible] *concerned.*

As to Your Majesties desire of a safe Conduct for the coming hither of the Duke of Richmond, *the Earle of* Southampton, John Ashburnham *and* Jeffery Palmer *Esquires, with Propositions*

tions to be the foundation of a happy and well grounded Peace. They finding that former Treaties have been made use of for other ends under the pretence of Peace, and so to prevent delayes, and unsuccessfull, cannot give way to a safe Conclusion according to Your Majesties desire; But both Houses of the Parliament of England, *having now under their Consideration Propositions and Bills for the setling of a safe and well grounded Peace, which are speedily to be communicated to the Commissioners of the Kingdome of* Scotland, *doe resolve after mutuall agreement of both Kingdomes to present them with all speed to Your Majesty.*

Gray of Wark [illegible]
of Peers [illegible]

Westminster the
25. Decemb. 1645. *William* [illegible]
Speaker of the House of Commons.

This Demall (so say no more) was brought to His [illegible] December [illegible] Peter Killegrew was [illegible] with this [illegible]

CHARLES R.

ALthough [illegible] laies the [illegible] leaving [illegible] Persons [illegible] Persons to be [illegible] Peace; [illegible] the [illegible] His repaire to *Westminster*, not but to [illegible] His Endeavours with His two Houses of Parliament, as to give just satisfaction, not only concerning the businesse of *Ireland*, but also for the setling of a way for the payment of the Publique Debts, as well to the *Scots*, and to the City of *London*, as others. And as already He

hath shewne a faire way for the setling of the *Militia*, so He shall carefully Endeavour in all other Particulars, that none shall have cause to complain for want of security, wherby just Jealousies may arise to hinder the continuance of the desired Peace. And certainly this Proposition of a Personall Treaty could never have entred into His Majesties Thoughts, if He had not resolv'd to make apparent to all the world, that the Publique good and Peace of this Kingdome, is farre dearer to Him then the respect of any particular Interest. Wherefore none can oppose this Motion, without a manifest demonstration, that he particularly envies His Majesty should be the [illegible] blessed a Worke, besides the declaring [illegible] of the happy Peace of these Nations. [illegible] will not be ashamed, that His faire [illegible] should be brought to a true and pub- [illegible] and those who have a real feare, and do truly com- [illegible] miseries of their bleeding Countries let them [illegible] and chearfully embrace [illegible] Proposition for [illegible] Personall Treaty at *Westminster*, [illegible] setling of [illegible] undoubtedly to these [illegible] Kingdomes, [illegible] happinesse of a long wisht for, and lasting Peace.

Given at the Court at Oxford, *the* [illegible] *day of* December, [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[

CHARLES R.

BUt that these are times, wherein nothing is strange; it were a thing much to be marvailed at, what should cause this unparalell'd long detention of His Majesties Trumpet, sent with His Gracious Message of the 26th of *December* last, Peace being the only Subject of it, and His Majesties Personall Treaty, the meanes propos[ed] almost as great a wonder, [that] be so long from inquiring after [it] expectation thereof, had not [our] fied His Impatience; [and] long silence, [should] nesse in [that] all His [Subjects] ter His [last] tend any [thing] men [to] an way [to] on, [that] likel[y] there [should] which [before] His M[ajesty] of H[is] Peace, [to] His Personall Presence at *Westminster*, where the Government of the Church being setled, as it was in the times of the happy and glorious Reignes of Queene *Elizabeth* and King *James*, with full Liberty for the ease of their Consciences,

who will not communicate in that Service eſtabliſhed by Law, and likewiſe for the free and publique uſe of the *Directory* (preſcribed, and by Command of the two Houſes of Parliament, now practiſed in ſome parts of the City of *London*) to ſuch as ſhall deſire to uſe the ſame, and all Forces being agreed to be Disbanded, His Majeſty will then forthwith (as He hath in His Meſſage of the 29th of *December* laſt, already offered) joyn with His two Houſes of Parliament, in ſetling ſome way for the payment of the [illegible] Debts to His *Scots* Subjects, the City of *London*, and others: And His Majeſty having propoſed a ſure way, for the ſetling of the *Militia*, which now by this long delay, ſeemes not to be thought ſufficient Security: His Majeſty (to ſhow how really He will imploy Himſelf) at His Coming to *Weſtminſter*, for making this a laſting Peace, and taking away all Jealouſies, (how groundleſſe ſoever) will endeavour, upon debate with His two Houſes, ſo to [illegible] of it (as likewiſe of the Buſineſſe of *Ireland*) as may give to them and both Kingdomes juſt ſatisfaction; Now doubting [illegible] but to give good Contentment to [illegible] of Parliament in the choice of the [illegible] the Officers of State and others, [illegible] by their [illegible] Inclinations to [illegible] encouraging thereunto. Thus His Majeſty [illegible] taken occaſion by His juſt Impatience to to explaine His Intentions [illegible] Man can doubt of a happy Iſſue to this ſucceeding Treaty: If now, there ſhall be ſo much as a delay of the ſame, He calls God and the World to witneſſe, who they are, that not only hinders but Reject this

King-

Kingdomes future happineſſe, It being ſo much the ſtranger, that His Majeſties comming to *Weſtminſter*, (which was firſt the greateſt pretence for raking up Armes) ſhould be ſo much as delayed, much leſſe not accepted or refuſed; But His Majeſty hopes, that God will no longer ſuffer the malice of Wicked men to hinder the Peace of this too much afflicted Kingdom. *Given at the Court at* Oxford, *the* 15th *of* January, 1645.

For the Speaker of the Houſe of Peers pro tempore, *To be Communicated to the two Houſes of Parliament at* Weſtminſter, *and the Commiſſioners of the Parliament of* Scotland.

After this ſent, and ſet his way to *Weſtminſter*; [illegible] turned His [illegible] former Trumpet w[illegible] ſwer to His Meſſage of the 16th and 20th of *Decemb.* long expected; but it ſeems [illegible] Anſwer as never had Pr[illegible] Subjects to any King in [illegible]

May it pleaſe Your

We [illegible] Your [illegible] of both Kingdoms [illegible] Letters of the 26 and 29 [illegible] laſt; unto which we [illegible] return this Anſwer.

That there hath been no delay on our parts, but what was neceſſary in a buſineſſe of ſo great conſequence, as is expreſſed in our former Letter to Your Majeſty.

Concerning the Personall Treaty desired by Your Majesty, There having been so much innocent Blood of Your good Subjects shed in this Warre, by Your Majesties Commands and Commissions, Irish Rebels brought over into both Kingdomes, and endeavours to bring over more into both of them, also Forces from Forreign parts; Your Majesty being in Armes in these parts, and the Prince in the head of an Army in the West, divers Townes made Garrisons, and kept in hostility by Your Majesty against the Parliament of England: There being also Forces in Scotland against that Parliament and Kingdome by Your Majesties Commission: The Warre in Ireland fomented and prolonged by Your Majesty, whereby the three Kingdomes are brought to the neere to utter ruine and destruction. We conceive, That untill Satisfaction and security be first given to all the Kingdomes, Your Majesties comming hither cannot be convenient, nor by us advisable. Neither can we apprehend it a meanes conducing to Peace, That Your Majesty should come to [illegible] for a few dayes, with any thoughts of [illegible] propositions of returning to [illegible] observe, That Your Majesty [illegible] only of the Parliament, [illegible] Councell, [illegible] don, the [illegible] Commanders [illegible] the Scots [illegible] the Priuiledges and honour of the Parliaments, whose being joyned with those who are subject and subordinate to their authority.

That which Your Majesty against the Fundamentall Priviledges of the Parliaments inforces in both Your Letters with many earnest expressions, as if in no other way then that propounded

pounded by Your Majesty, the Peace of Your Kingdomes could be established, Your Majesty may please to remember, That in our last Letter, we did Declare, That Propositions from both Kingdomes were speedily to be sent to Your Majesty, which We conceive to be the only way for the attaining a happy and well grounded Peace, and Your Majesties Assent unto those Propositions, will be an effectuall meanes for giving satisfaction and security to Your Kingdomes: will assure a firme Peace betweene the two Kingdoms, as much desired by each for [illegible] selves; and settle Religion and [illegible] Kingdom of Scotland, whereof [illegible] mentioned in Your Majesties Letter.

And in proceeding according to those just and [illegible] ry grounds for the [illegible] to the blessed Cal[illegible] mities of these Nations, Your Majesty may have the glo[illegible] ry to be an [illegible] and [illegible] happy Works, and we (however [illegible]) shall approve our [illegible] to God and the [illegible] as [illegible] and sincere in [illegible] a safe and well grounded Peace.

Westminster, 13 Jan. [illegible]

Grey of Wrake, Speaker of [illegible]
House of Peers, pro tempore. [illegible]

William Lenthall, Speaker [illegible]
the House of Commons. [illegible] PALMERINOTH.

For Your MAJESTY.

This

This, and no more, is all they Answer'd to His Majesty's Five Messages, and six weeks Expectation. Such as are not drencht so deep in blood, as to abhorre all Peace, would chearfully embrace His Majesties Proposition for a Perfect Treaty. 'Tis the very expedient Themselves propos'd in all their Messages, Declarations and Speeches. But now they remember it, forasmuch as they find His Majesty *in Safety, and Prince* Charles *in the Head of an Army in the West*, (a strange consequence. That because 'tis now Warre, therefore it shall never be Peace.) Though 'tis as notorious Who was first in Arms, as who first began to Plunder. What [illegible] by demanding of His Majesty *Satisfaction* [illegible] Christian but trembles to under- [illegible] that His Majesty in desiring the joynt [illegible] of London for His Security at first, [illegible] Parliament, Re- [illegible] those [illegible] from any [illegible] Sir Thomas [illegible] Him- [illegible] to the Earle of Essex in Cornwall, in a Let- [illegible] they'l grant as much as His Majesties command as [illegible] the Citizens of London can [illegible] manifest that His Majesty [illegible] the World to heale His [illegible] they'l not grant to [illegible] either Send Peace, or [illegible] and forty dayes in sending

FINIS.

UMI